Promotion and Privatisation of Communication System

1878. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration to privatise the communication system and speed post system; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

साहित्यकारों पर स्मारक डाक टिकट

1879. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस वर्ष किन-किन साहित्यकारों के सम्मान में डाक टिकट निकाले जाने का प्रस्ताव है;

(ख) क्या अनेक बुद्धिजीवियों और संसद् सदस्यों ने सरकार से हिन्दी के दो प्रख्यात लेखकों अर्थात् स्वर्गीय सर्वश्री राजाधिकारमण प्रसाद सिंह और वृन्दावन लाल वर्मा, जिनकी शताब्दी हाल ही में पूरी हुई है; के सम्मान में विशेष डाक टिकट निकालने का अनुरोध किया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी॰वी॰ रंगैया नायडू): (क) वर्ष 1992 के दौरान स्मारक / विशेष डाक-टिकट जारी करने के अनन्तिम कार्यक्रम में कवि और स्वतंत्रता सेनानी श्री विजय सिंह पथिक का नाम शामिल है।

(ख) जी, हां।

(ग) इन पर डाक टिकट जारी करने के प्रस्ताव स्मारक / विशेष डाक-टिकट आदि जारी करने के संबंध में सरकार को सलाह देने वाली फिलैटलिक सलाहकार समिति के समक्ष रखे गए थे किन्तु समिति ने इनकी सिफारिश नहीं की।

इन प्रस्तावों को उक्त समिति की अगली बैठक में पुनः विचारार्थ रखा जाएगा।

Ban on recruitment in Postal Department

1880. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on the recruitment of staff in Postal Department;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not creating jobs corresponding to the growth in population?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Creation of jobs is not dependent on growth in population alone.

Levy of Surcharge on Delayed Telephone Bills

1881. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to levy surcharge on delayed telephone bills;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that telephone department billing system is defective and subscribers are presented inflated bills; and

(d) if so, what measures Government propose to take to rectify the billing system and ensure correct submission of telephone bills to subscribers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to have a built-in disincentive against delayed payments as also to encourage timely payment of telephone bills.

At present more than 50 per cent subscribers are making payment after expiry of the cut-off date.

(c) The telephone billing system is not defective and subscribers are issued bills based on the actual usage of the telphone services.

(d) With a view to further improve the existing system large scale computerisation of telephone bills is being implemented.

Complaint by S.T.D. Subscribers against wrong billing

1882. SHRI J.P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large complaints are received from all over India from S.T.D subscribers that they are receiving telephone bills for large amounts even when the facility is not made use of by them; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the wrong billings, and the action taken to set things right?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, Bills issued to the subscribers are based on the actual usage of the telephone services made by them. Few complaints are received totalling less than 1% of the total number of bills issued by the Department.

(b) Adequate care is taken by the Department to the accuracy of the telephone bills, however, errors detected on account of clerical mistakes, computer billing errors, technical fault etc., are immediately attended to by issuing to the subscriber provisional bills based on the previous billings history of the subscriber.

Waiting list for Telephones at Hubli in Karnataka

1883. SHRI J.P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the waiting list for telephones in Hubli, Karnataka is very large;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to clear the waiting list?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The waiting list for telephone connections as on 31.1.92 at Hubli in the state of Karnataka is given below:-

OYT	11
Non OYT spl.	103
Non OYT Genl.	2244
TOTAL:	2460

(b) Inspite of progressive providing of telephone connections at Hubli in the past years, the demand for telephone connections has also been rising. As on 31.1.92, the waiting list under OYT category has been cleared upto 4.7.91, under Non OYT special category upto 1.2.90 and under Non OYT General category upto 3.11.88.

(c) The Department of Telecommunications has formulated draft 8th five year plan with an objective:

— to provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and tribal areas.

— Waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years.

Accordingly expansion programmes are being drawn to provide telephone connections to persons in waiting list at Hubli in Karnataka state progressively during 8th five year plan period.

Number of private vehicles engaged in Corporate Office of M.T.N.L. and Delhi Telephones

1884. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of departmental vehicles with the Corporate Office of Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited, and the Delhi Telephones as on 31st January, 1992;

(b) what is the number of private vehicles being engaged per month by the Corporate Office since its inception and number of private vehicles being